

Resuscitation Device

Related Patent

1/00/ 06/09/2008 This application is a continuation of patent application now abandoned
5 09/703,004, filed October 31, 2000, which is a continuation of patent application 08/922,723, filed August 27, 1997, now U.S. Patent 6,142,962, issued November 7, 2000.

Field of the Invention

10 This invention relates to emergency medical devices and methods.

Background of the Invention

15 Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) is a well known and valuable method of first aid. CPR is used to resuscitate people who have suffered from cardiac arrest after heart attack, electric shock, chest injury and many other causes. During cardiac arrest, the heart stops pumping blood, and a person suffering cardiac arrest will soon suffer brain damage from lack of blood supply to the brain. Thus, CPR requires repetitive chest compression to squeeze the heart and the thoracic cavity to pump blood through 20 the body. Very often, the victim is not breathing, and mouth to mouth artificial respiration or a bag valve mask is used to supply air to the lungs while the chest compression pumps blood through the body.

25 It has been widely noted that CPR and chest compression can save cardiac arrest victims, especially when applied immediately after cardiac arrest. Chest compression requires that the person providing chest compression repetitively push down on the sternum